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## The Prospector, August 23, 2022

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Paving new paths at The Prospector

Kenith Meissner is new Dean of Engineering

Wrapping Summer up with music at Summer Fest

UTEP's long-awaited football season is here



# THE PROSPECTOR

VOL. 108, NO. 1  
AUGUST 23, 2022

Assayer of Student Opinion

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

theprospectordaily.com

## President Heather Wilson

### Picks up for Minerpalooza

BY ALYSON RODRIGUEZ  
The Prospector

Miner Nation, get ready for Minerpalooza! UTEP's annual Minerpalooza celebration is returning for its 32nd year Friday, Sept. 2. There is something for everyone at Minerpalooza as it will be filled with a variety of activities, games, music, and more.

It is back and bigger than ever! This Miner event brings the whole UTEP community together to celebrate the community's Miner spirit.

Admission into Minerpalooza is free for everyone. The event will start in the evening and there will be many activities for all ages. There will also be lots of booths with games to play and prizes to win. A jumping balloon station called Pete's Playground will be located on the football practice field. For adults 21 and over, there will be a beer and wine garden. Food trucks will also be there to feed the public.

One of the main events of the night will be the final matchup of the Battle of the Bands. Fans watched videos of the five bands who entered and voted to move three bands to the second round. The final three will compete at Texas Western Gold Rush occurring on the first day of school from 7 to 9 p.m Aug. 22. The bands competing include Melancholy 10, Jamal Streeter, ACID WAVE, Low Perfection, and Sultanes Del Yonke. Last year's winner was Rivers Ventura who won a check for \$2,000.

see MINERPALOOZA on page 9

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Dr. Heather Wilson laughs during an interview with The Prospector and Minero Magazine in the Hoover House Aug. 5. Photo by Alberto Silva Fernandez/The Prospector

## Getting to know her with 73 questions

BY ITZEL GIRON  
The Prospector

The Prospector and Minero Magazine made their way to Hoover House Aug. 5— residence of the President of The University of Texas at El Paso, to meet President Heather Wilson, Ph.D., and to get to know her in a new light. Inspired by Vogue Magazine, both publications compiled 73 questions that were important not just to them but to the student body.

After former President Diana Natalicio had announced her retirement in 2018, the hunt to find a replacement quickly began. Appointed in 2019, the UTEP community only got a chance to meet the new president, Wilson, for a brief moment before a global

pandemic came and changed everything everywhere. Now three years later, students are back on campus and are sure to find Wilson walking around campus. But who is she besides our university president?

Before becoming president of UTEP, Wilson worked in the Pentagon as United States Secretary of the Air Force under President Donald Trump for about two years. This job change is a total flip from working with high-ranking officials and the 45th President to now overseeing more than 20,000 students.

Having the opportunity to work in El Paso might not have been in the plans for Wilson originally, but it was something she was ready to handle straight on even if she could

not celebrate right away.

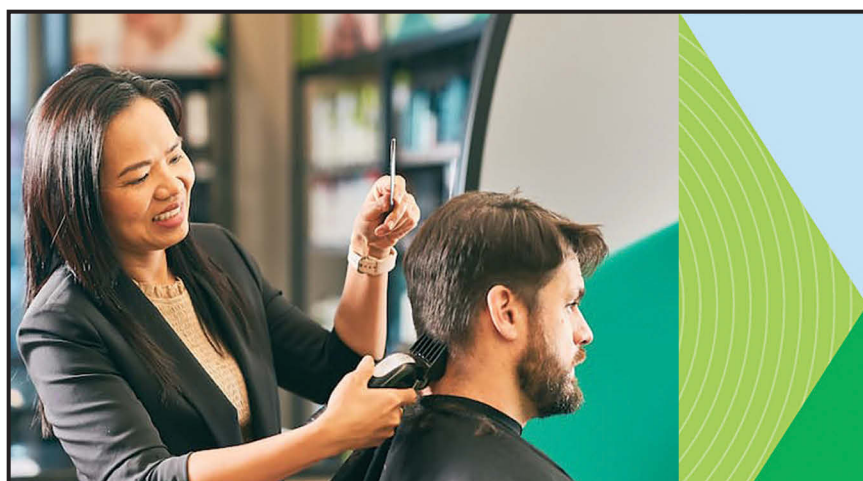
"I didn't really celebrate; it wasn't public until the regents announced it, so no one in the Pentagon and the President wasn't aware," said Wilson about her recollection of the day she learned she would become the next President of UTEP. "I had to arrange to get a letter up to the President and inform people of the decision, so it was kind of a busy morning."

Having just started her UTEP presidency during the COVID-19 pandemic, Wilson spent much of her time going to online school events or staying connected with students through Zoom calls. This inspired her to make the first year back to in-person operations meaningful.

"We believe in an engaged in-person education, and we think it is important," Wilson said. "We also knew our students had lost a lot during the pandemic and needed to be back together and engaged and so we really increased significantly the numbers of things we were doing on campus. It is not a question of 'is there something going on campus today?,' it is 'what am I going to choose out of all the things going on campus today?'"

Aside from her dedication and love for UTEP, Wilson also took some time to express her love for some of her favorite things including country music, her UTEP cowboy boots, and quite possibly her favorite thing: photos of her

see WILSON on page 5



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# Opinion

Emily Autumn Velasquez, editor-in-chief

## Paving new paths at The Prospector

BY EMILY AUTUMN VELASQUEZ  
The Prospector

Navigating college is anything but easy. It is a constant game of search, both literally and figuratively, whether that consists of searching for what classes to take or searching for friendships that will last a lifetime.

Luckily for me, my search for finding a place I felt understood, heard, and seen was short-lived when I joined The Prospector last fall.

As a multimedia journalism major with a minor in rhetoric and creative writing, I am honored to have been appointed the position of editor-in-chief at The Prospector for the fall semester.

This opportunity is one I never imagined, but now that I have attained it, I am excited to embark on this journey with the help of my peers.



Annabella Mireles/The Prospector

While I have enjoyed my tenure as sports editor this past year, throughout my journey I realized my potential to do more for the student newspaper and become a more well-rounded journalist by taking on this leadership role.

As the newest editor-in-chief in a long line of successors, I have set goals into place to see the publica-

tion thrive and continue to prosper.

I aspire to lead a staff of talented student journalists who feel confident and supported to write about some of the most pivotal issues happening in the UTEP and El Paso community. Similar to this, I hope to lead a newspaper that students and members of these communities can trust for its commitment to telling stories driven by accuracy, based on timeliness, and rooted in humanity.

I also aspire to make sure that we not only get the UTEP community more involved in reading copies of our publication but encourage them to follow us on our social media platforms and give our podcast a listen to increase our viewership and ensure the hard work we are doing is seen and heard.

With many aspirations in mind, I could not have gotten to this position without the love and support

of my family and friends. Their constant support has allowed me to find a comfortable space to follow my dreams and reach this position.

While some have parted ways to pursue their dreams, the friendships I have made at this publication helped get me to where I am now. Thank you Victoria (Nicole) Almaguer, Anahy Diaz, Maria L. Guerrero Duran, Itzel Giron, Hugo Hinojosa, Annabella Mireles, and Victoria Rivas for believing in me even when I did not believe in myself so that I could get to where I am today. There are not enough words to express the love and gratitude I have for each of you.

For a few years, UTEP was just a place I was interested in academically, but in joining the Student Media & Publications Department I have found a second home. The Prospector is more than just a newspaper, but a place I will forever

be indebted to for all the opportunities it has brought me and will continue to bring.

For 107 years, The Prospector has consisted of an overwhelming number of passion driven journalists that write its headlines and tell the stories that need to be heard. Every story published is a piece of history that showcases the hard work of these journalists and the voice of the community and those to follow. I am confident that my staff and I will ensure it is history worth remembering.

As we embark on a new semester, I encourage those with questions, story ideas, tips, guest columns, letters to the editors, or inquiries to contact The Prospector at 915-747-5161 or [prospector@utep.edu](mailto:prospector@utep.edu).

Emily Autumn Velasquez is the editor in chief and may be reached at [eavelasquez@miners.utep.edu](mailto:eavelasquez@miners.utep.edu); @emilyautumn20 on Twitter; @byemilyautumn on Instagram.

## Exploring art and culture through a new lens

BY MEAGAN GARCIA  
The Prospector

Art and culture exist in multitudes that seep into every aspect of our everyday lives. From music to movies to literature, we have always been able to find joy in the different creative outlets around us.

Living in a digital age makes connection to different events or new pieces of media more accessible, and as the new arts and culture editor, I am honored to be able to share that through my work.

I am currently a junior who is majoring in mechanical engineering at UTEP and I am also the vice president of the Creative Writing Society on campus.

While I have many goals for my career, like being able to work at NASA in the future, I still would love to keep journalism and writing in my life beyond academics. I have always had a passion for writing, and I am extremely happy that I get to pursue it in so many areas of my life.

We navigate the world through the art, music, books and clothing

that we enjoy. These things each hold long-standing significance for multiple people based on tradition and self-expression.

I strive to continue writing on these matters because of how important they are. I hope that with this new position I can share not only things that are coming out nationwide but also things that are happening on a local scale.

There are dozens of artists, events and shops that come through our city or have been here for a long time that people are not always aware of. El Paso and the UTEP campus are both culturally rich environments with an abundance of beautiful stories that deserve to be told.

My goal is to spread awareness about these things to help strengthen our community and provide people with different creative and cultural outlets to explore.

As the eldest daughter of a Mexican-American household, I know just how important it is to keep cultural and artistic work alive. Not only for myself but for the genera-

tions that follow me.

I grew up listening to artists like Selena Quintanilla and hearing about activists like Sylvia Rivera.

As I got older, I also found comfort and liberation in learning about Chicana art and fashion. These are all creations that were passed on to me by those who came before me.

Each new film, song and painting house major cultural impacts for many groups of people. I wish to be able to pass these stories along to others like they were passed on to me.

Thankfully I am blessed with a full and loving support system that can help me achieve these goals.

I want to thank my family for nurturing my dreams and entertaining every interest and curious thought I have ever had.

My parents worked hard so that my constant pursuit of knowledge never went unfulfilled, and I am forever grateful for the opportunities they have given me. I carry their love with me in everything I do.

I also want to thank my friends



Annabella Mireles/The Prospector

for always asking to read whatever I write. No matter what the story is they never fail to make me feel like my work is incredibly special. Everything I write has a piece of them in it, whether it is big or small.

Everyone working at The Prospector has been so kind and inviting. I cannot wait to work with all these lovely and talented individuals.

I hope that people get to read this paper and find all sorts of inspiration in the different works of art and culture that are featured here.

Meagan Garcia is the arts & culture editor and may be reached at [megarcia19@miners.utep.edu](mailto:megarcia19@miners.utep.edu).



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Personal information (phone numbers and address) will be used for identification only. Letters are subject to editing to fit available space, clarity and brevity.

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# UTEP student challenges CASS policy

BY KRISTEN SCHEAFFER  
The Prospector

UTEP criminal justice major Dyana Guillen-Garza has challenged the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS), policy after receiving multiple suggestions to take medical leave instead of finishing her summer classes.

On top of living with a chronic illness that impacts her day-to-day life, Guillen-Garza is juggling being a mother and a UTEP student. Soon to be 43 years old, Guillen-Garza says that it is time to finally get her bachelor's degree and stop letting her illness hold her back.

Guillen-Garza started at UTEP in the fall semester of 2020, having to adjust and drop classes to accommodate her illness. Guillen-Garza said that she did not have trouble with the system, until this summer.

"I never really had any trouble with any professors up until this summer of 2022. That's the only time that I've struggled with professors being very understanding of what I'm going through," Guillen-Garza said.

Per CASS policy, she was allotted an extra day and a half to complete her assignments, however, it was not enough for Guillen-Garza, who struggles with memory and understanding due to her illness. Guillen-Garza admits that she is partly responsible because she was not well enough to read how much extra time she was given, regardless, she feels a day and a half is not enough time.

Professors had suggested she consider taking medical leave, but this was not an option for Guillen-Garza. Guillen-Garza has had to take medical leaves in the past and feels as if continuing to do so will continue to prevent her from graduating.

"I think that I've recognized that I have a condition, and it got to a point where it was taking away from my life and what I wanted to do. And I feel if I can stay afloat and maintain, that I can reach that goal and I think it does send a positive message," Guillen-Garza said.



UTEP student Dyana Guillen-Garza has been in contact with the Center for Accommodations and Support services, also known as CASS at UTEP. Guillen-Garza that is chronic and has interfered with her studies. Photo by Jasmin Campoya/The Prospector

"And I said that, not just to myself, but to others, that we have the resources and the support around us to try and meet those goals."

Alyssa Gutierrez, director for CASS, and Dr. Charles Gibbens, assistant vice president of student support, broke down the process CASS uses to decide what accommodations students can receive.

The process begins with meeting a coordinator to determine the disability and how it is exhibited in the student, examine any supporting documentation, and converse about the classes and the challenges posed by those classes.

"Once we ascertain from the discussion with the student, as far as what the challenges are, we have conversations about accommodations and what would be most appropriate and reasonable for the student, in order to be able to access the instruction and then work within the classroom," Gutierrez said.

Once the accommodations

**"I think that I've recognized that I have a condition, and it got to a point where it was taking away from my life and what I wanted to do."**

**Dyana Guillen-Garza,**  
Criminal justice major

are set, letters are sent to faculty members that a student needs these specified accommodations. It is the student's responsibility to meet with their professors to discuss those accommodations.

Gibbens said CASS is centered around the support and success of the students. He says it is not up to the faculty to determine accommodations; professors can only refer the students to CASS.

"The whole goal behind CASS is to level the playing field. It's not to give an unfair advantage, but it is to help level the playing field. And it's important to note that the only group on campus that can provide an academic accommodation is CASS," Gibbens said.

Guillen-Garza insists there should be medical professionals included in the conversation for accommodations. Her case is still on-going after her meeting with Gibbens.

"UTEP, as a university, has to find something, I guess a medical director, or a couple of them; not just one because not just one provider is going to know everything. And I think it takes collaboration between different medical directors and providers that have expertise to judge," Guillen-Garza said.

The ADA determines and provides access and opportunity for those living with a disability and is led by Gutierrez and Beatriz Tapia, director of the Equal Opportunity office and ADA coordinator. The

ADA Advisory Committee was formed in spring 2022. During a meeting on Monday, Aug. 15, Tapia explained that the EO office works with employees on accommodations and CASS works with student needs, but the offices do work with individuals' needs on a case-by-case basis.

"And sometimes it does take some back-and-forth to ultimately make sure that we provide them what is necessary, what may be appropriate, what may be reasonable, so unfortunately, sometimes it take a little bit of that, but ultimately within to meet that need of that particular individual," Tapia said during the meeting.

To find out more about the ADA Advisory Committee, visit [utep.edu/ada-advisorycommittee](http://utep.edu/ada-advisorycommittee). To learn more about CASS and its policies, visit [utep.edu/student](http://utep.edu/student).

Kristen Scheaffer is a contributor and may be reached at [kmscheaffer@miners.utep.edu](mailto:kmscheaffer@miners.utep.edu).

## UTEP alumni create career development platform for students

BY MARIA L. GUERRERO DURAN  
The Prospector

Internbytes was launched in March by Jesus Maximino Hernandez, Timothy McCrary and Erik Rivera as a career development platform for underrepresented students.

The platform allows students from a variety of backgrounds and fields of interests such as communications, sports, technology and sciences to express their opinions and share tips with fellow students who are in the quest of securing job experiences through internships.

McCrary graduated December 2021 with a bachelor's degree in computer science with a focus on software engineering. Jesus Maximino Hernandez graduated December 2021 with a bachelor's degree in computer science. Erik Rivera graduated December 2021

with a master's degree in software engineering.

The three of them quickly came to the realization that Latinos were not represented enough in internships and that they had little to no guidance of the application process or recruiting. Thus, the idea of networking among students was born.

Internbytes is targeted towards underrepresented students such as first-generation students, Latinos, Asian Americans, African Americans and women. The team's goal is to function as a recruiting service for employers to find great candidates that may go unnoticed due to their background.

The team described their platform as a "Rate My Professor" for internships. The well-known website among college students allows them to grade their professors and leave comments based on their experiences, including comments on how

hard they grade, if they follow the syllabus and if they recommend the professor or not. Internbytes follows that path and allows students to rate companies to give other students an idea on what to expect.

"The whole purpose of Internbytes is to have students get on Internbytes (to) help each other in the community and then from that we'll have employers who recruit these students who want these internships," McCrary said.

McCrary recalls not having any guidance from his parents due to the limited exposure Latinos have to these programs. Thus, they made it a goal to help people find a space for them to share their experiences and ratings with and of companies.

"When we started, one thing we found with every internship we went to was that there were no Latino students anywhere; it was just us," McCrary said. "Hispanics

specifically are the most underrepresented group in the internships, so it was a problem."

While the website is still growing and with future plans since its launch March 1, Internbytes has received around 1,200 subscribers from the United States, Mexico, and Canada.

In May, the team won first place in the El Paso Pitch Startup Competition hosted by UTEP Blackstone Launchpad and Success Through Technology Education (STTE) Foundation. In 2021 it won second place in the Grand Pitch Competition hosted by Blackstone Launchpad & Techstars.

McCrary, Hernandez and Rivera started working on their website two years ago while still attending classes. After the website was done, professors allowed the team to go to different classes and promote their project.

"It was tough. We were in school. We were in internships, and we didn't know anything about creating websites or businesses at all," McCrary said. "So, we had a lot of time in the UTEP library just figuring out how to make a company. It was definitely not easy."

Students can ask questions, find reviews on companies or internship programs, and guides on how to make a good resume or excel in an interview. There is also a feature called "Spaces" which allows people to join groups where they can find content or students they relate to, for example, "First-Gen Students," "Women in Tech," and "International Students."

For more information about Internbytes visit [www.internbytes.com](http://www.internbytes.com).

Maria L. Guerrero Duran is the web and copy editor and may be reached at [miguerrero@miners.utep.edu](mailto:miguerrero@miners.utep.edu); @bymariguerrero on Instagram and Twitter.

# Kenith Meissner is new Dean of Engineering

BY ALYSON RODRIGUEZ  
The Prospector

UTEP names Kenith Meissner, Ph.D., the new Dean of the College of Engineering and he began his role Aug. 3. The new dean has many dreams and plans for the engineering program in his new role.

“As UTEP has grown from a regional university to a national university over the last 20 years or so, I really see UTEP Engineering continue to grow in regional, national and global reputation and really impact as well,” Meissner said. “I see us building on our excellent foundation in engineering education and the ability to produce graduates who are ready for the global economy. I really want to build on our impactful research that will have a global impact and solve global problems.”

Meissner graduated from Lehigh University in 1987 with a bachelor of science in electrical engineering and he earned his doctoral degree in optical sciences from the University of Arizona in 1994.

Meissner was a postdoctoral appointee in the Surface Physics Group at Sandia National Laboratories after graduating with his doctoral degree.

After holding positions at Virginia Tech and Texas A&M, Meissner joined Swansea University’s School of Engineering in 2014 as professor and chair, and from 2016 to 2020, he was head of physics.

After, Meissner served as pro-vice chancellor/executive dean and as professor of science and engineering for Swansea University in Wales.

With his guidance, the science and engineering program achieved an increase in student satisfaction based on a national survey and placed 10 programs in their respective national top 10 rankings.

“Before this position I had never been to El Paso and I didn’t know

that much about the university, but then I learned that it is America’s leading Hispanic-serving research university and a R1 research school,” Meissner said. “During my interview, I met some of the students here and I was just inspired by them. I had never met students with such a purpose, commitment, and passion to their education, but also a commitment to their families and community. I’ve never experienced a university that had such a clear focus on social mobility. These factors are what drew me into El Paso.”

The Department of Engineering held a “Meet the Dean” event Aug. 18 in order to introduce the new dean to students, faculty, and staff. It was held from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Geology Reading Room located in room 310 in the Geological Sciences building. Ice cream and refreshments were provided to guests in attendance.

Mariana Sigala, a UTEP engineering student, attended the ice cream social in order to network with the new dean.

“I came to the Meet the Dean event because I wanted to network with the staff and faculty in attendance and more importantly meet the new dean and see what he is bringing into the College of Engineering,” Sigala said. “I was very excited to meet him and to learn about his worldwide experience. He seemed very excited and looking forward to working with us students.”

Meissner said he has been having a wonderful time in El Paso so far and he has been enjoying the Mexican food. One of the projects that he is most looking forward to is the groundbreaking of the new aerospace building at the end of this month.

Alyson Rodriguez is a staff reporter and may be reached at aerodriguez20@miners.utep.edu; @alyson\_rod1127 on Twitter.



TOP: New dean of the College of Engineering, Kenith Meissner, shakes the hand of an attendee at the “Meet the Dean” ice cream social from 4:00 p.m. to 6 p.m. Aug. 28 in the Geology Reading Room.

BOTTOM LEFT: A UTEP orchestra member plays the violin and entertains people at the event Aug. 18.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Paulina Carranca, an employee of the food services and catering at UTEP, presents an attendee with vanilla ice cream.

Photos by Joel Molina/The Prospector

## Monkeypox: What you need to know about the new disease

BY EMILY AUTUMN VELASQUEZ  
The Prospector

Monkeypox is a rare disease caused by infection with the monkeypox virus, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which is aiming to raise awareness of the disease as there has been a recent spike in cases across the United States.

There have been 14,115 cases confirmed in the U.S. and zero deaths reported as of Aug. 22, according to the CDC.

El Paso has had only one confirmed case of monkeypox, reported by the City of El Paso Public Health Department Aug. 12. Health officials confirmed it was a woman in her 50s and those that came into close contact with her will be offered the vaccine, according to the El Paso Times.

The symptoms for monkeypox include an intense rash that goes through several stages including scabs before healing and can initially look like pimples or blisters that can be painful or itchy. Other symptoms include fever, chills, swollen lymph nodes, exhaustion,

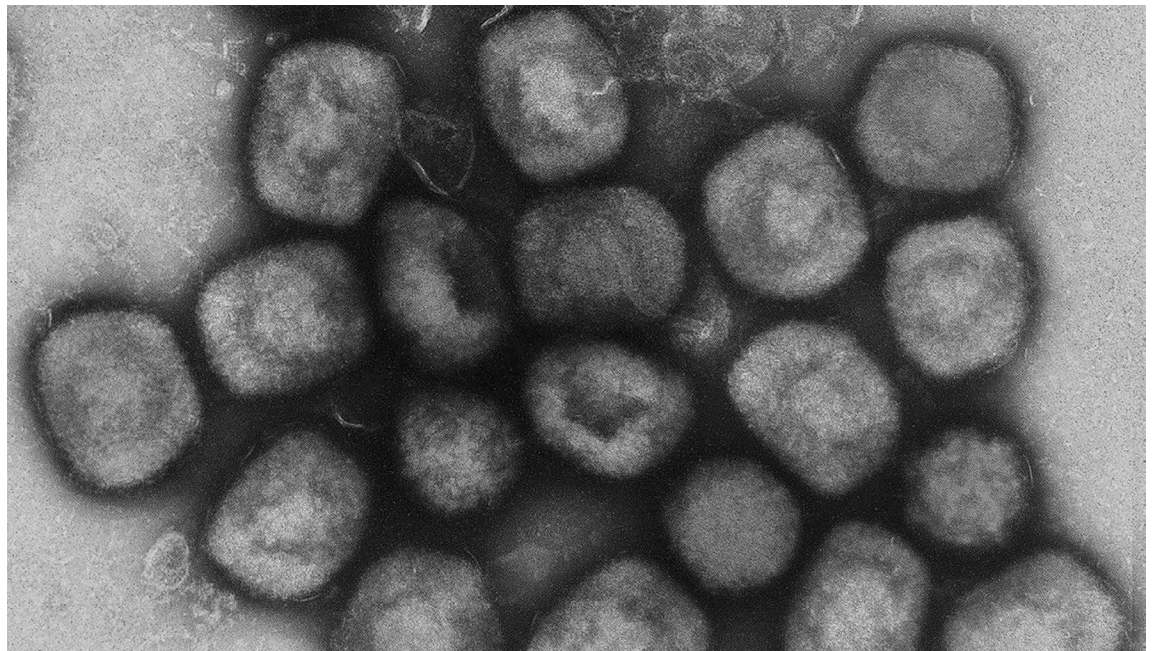
muscle aches, headache, or respiratory symptoms, according to the CDC.

The website said that symptoms of monkeypox start within three weeks of exposure to the virus. If someone has flu-like symptoms, usually a rash will develop 1-4 days later, and the illness can last two to four weeks.

Monkeypox is not as contagious as other diseases and is mainly contracted through close or intimate contact. This can mean direct contact with monkeypox rash, scabs, or bodily fluids from someone already infected with monkeypox, which includes touching objects, fabrics, and surfaces that have been used by an infected person, according to the CDC.

Direct contact such as hugging, massage, kissing, or sexual intercourse can lead to the spreading of monkeypox as well, according to the CDC.

“Monkeypox continues to be a global threat and for this reason, we strongly recommend everyone continue practicing safety precautions to keep themselves and their family,



Only one case of monkeypox has been reported by the City of El Paso Public Health Department as of Aug. 12. The rare disease can be spread through direct contact according to the CDC.

Photo courtesy of NIAID/Wikipedia Commons

especially our most vulnerable loved ones, safe from all diseases, whether it is COVID-19, monkeypox, or the flu,” said City-County Health Authority Dr. Hector Ocaranza at an interview for the El Paso Times.

While there is no specific treat-

ment for those infected with monkeypox, there are steps to take if infected. The CDC recommends using gauze or bandages to cover the rash to limit the spread of monkeypox. It is also recommended to not do anything to further irritate the skin such as popping or scratch-

ing the lesions from the rash.

For more information on monkeypox, visit [cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/](https://cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/).

Emily Autumn Velasquez is the editor in chief and may be reached at [eavelasquez@miners.utep.edu](mailto:eavelasquez@miners.utep.edu); @emilyautumn20 on Twitter; @byemilyautumn on Instagram.

# The unsolved problem of mass shootings

BY ITZEL GIRON  
The Prospector

Since 1999 there have been 311,000 school shootings according to The Washington Post, and recently added to that list is the shooting at Robb Elementary. In Uvalde, Texas on May 24, 2019 students and two teachers were murdered at Robb Elementary School, leaving a community grieving.

Days after the shooting, teachers across the state came out in support of gun reform after state politicians proposed teachers to be armed in the classroom.

Texas Sen. Ted Cruz and Attorney General Ken Paxton proposed for Texas teachers be armed to harden the Texas School Marshal Program, which allows for school staff to get trained and carry a gun on campus to protect students. The program, which was established in 2013, has had much backlash as well as some in favor of it. According to The Texas Tribune, only 84 schools statewide are part of the program.

Locally, none of the school districts are enrolled in the Texas School Marshal program. While all districts do have a form of security, are these schools prepared for the worst-case scenario: an active shooter?

The Prospector interviewed local teachers and students on what they believe the best course of action is and the proposals from state legislators to prevent an active shooter.

“(School districts) need to educate staff on carrying a firearm, the do’s and don’ts,” said Melissa Willing, a 5th grade teacher at Escontrias Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics Academy (STEAM). “Praying isn’t helping anymore; we



A family mourns at Ponder Park Aug. 4, 2019, after the shooting at a local Walmart that killed 23 people. **Annabella Mireles/The Prospector File Photo**

need to do something else.”

For some, bringing guns into the hands of teachers is key to limiting active shooter situations, but to others it is even more dangerous. In a survey done by the State Teachers Union (Texas AFT), survey shows that of the 4,000 respondents, 77% would prefer to not be armed. In that same report, 83% of those respondents would prefer to ban assault weapons to prevent an active shooter situation.

“(An active shooter) can occur anywhere and we cannot live in fear,” Willing said. “We need to be more aware of our surroundings and security needs to actually walk the school grounds.”

Escontrias STEAM Academy, which is in the Socorro Independ-

ent School District, has an active security guard and standard protocols in place in case of an emergency. In the case of an active shooter, SISD follows the Texas State: Texas School Safety Center basic plan in case of an active shooter.

Alongside teachers, students spend most of their days inside a classroom, but with active shooters on the rise according to a report by the National Center for Education Statistics, how do students feel about the current situation and in what ways they think active shooters can be prevented?

After Uvalde, a Dallas school district announced students are required to bring clear backpacks to ensure safety. Though school districts in the borderland have yet

to require clear backpacks, some students at Socorro High School said they do not believe they will prevent active shooters.

“I get it is for the greater good, but it is an invasion of privacy and won’t prevent someone from coming into our school,” said Elias Rangel, a sophomore at Socorro High School. “I believe more security and high-tech doors with passcodes could make schools safer.”

With ideas such as high-tech

doors, more security, and even possibly arming teachers, do students feel safe with the current methods?

“With my campus having a history of many lockdowns, I do worry,” Rangel said. “I wonder about ever having to be in that situation sometimes, it’s scary to think that it’s possible.”

For students, there are easier ways to limit the chance of an active shooter, rather than arming teachers or clear backpacks.

“I think (our school) needs to be more aware about who they let into the school and who they have conversations around,” said Anna Juarez, a senior at Socorro High School. “I also suggest schools communicate with parents and students about stuff going on at the campus.”

Though active shooters do not come with a warning, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott sent a letter out requesting that the Texas School Safety Center do random checks and audits of all Texas schools to find points of entry for an active shooter beginning this September.

Itzel Giron is the multimedia editor and can be reached at [iagiron@miners.utep.edu](mailto:iagiron@miners.utep.edu); [@byitzelgiron](https://www.instagram.com/byitzelgiron) on Instagram; [@itzel\\_anahi\\_16](https://www.twitter.com/itzel_anahi_16) on Twitter.

**WILSON** from page 1

grandchild.

“As my husband says, ‘we live upstairs from the museum’ but we also wanted to make (Hoover House) our own,” Wilson said. “We are now grandparents and like all grandparents, we like to torture people with pictures of our grandchildren.”

Even though one of her favorite items is her grandchild’s photo, Wilson did open up about her love for aviation, including a family propeller that she jokingly mentioned belongs to her brother.

“My father and my grandfather were aviators, and my dad built an experimental open cockpit bi-plane inside our house,” Wilson said. “For 40 years there was a propeller

that he did not put on his airplane, so he had an extra propeller and I always have to say that the propeller belongs to my brother. He has loaned it to me for about 40 years. So, I have my fathers’ propeller in the living room.”

The house is filled with not just Wilson family history but Hoover House history, which is seen throughout residence. Wilson talks about the painting of former Mayor of El Paso Richard M. Dudley, who commissioned the Hoover House to the furniture that has been there since the Hoovers bought the property in 1944.

“The dining room has all the furniture that all the Hoovers had here, it was Lou Ann Hoover

who told me that, she is one of the surviving daughters,” Wilson said. “When she came to have tea at this table just after I arrived here, she said, ‘oh this is the same furniture’ this was the furniture here when she was a child.”

We continued to speak with Wilson about her plans for the future of UTEP, advice for UTEP students, her piloting experience and we even asked if she follows a certain social media account.

To watch the full video, go to [@utep\\_prospector](https://www.instagram.com/utep_prospector) or [@utepminero](https://www.instagram.com/utepminero).

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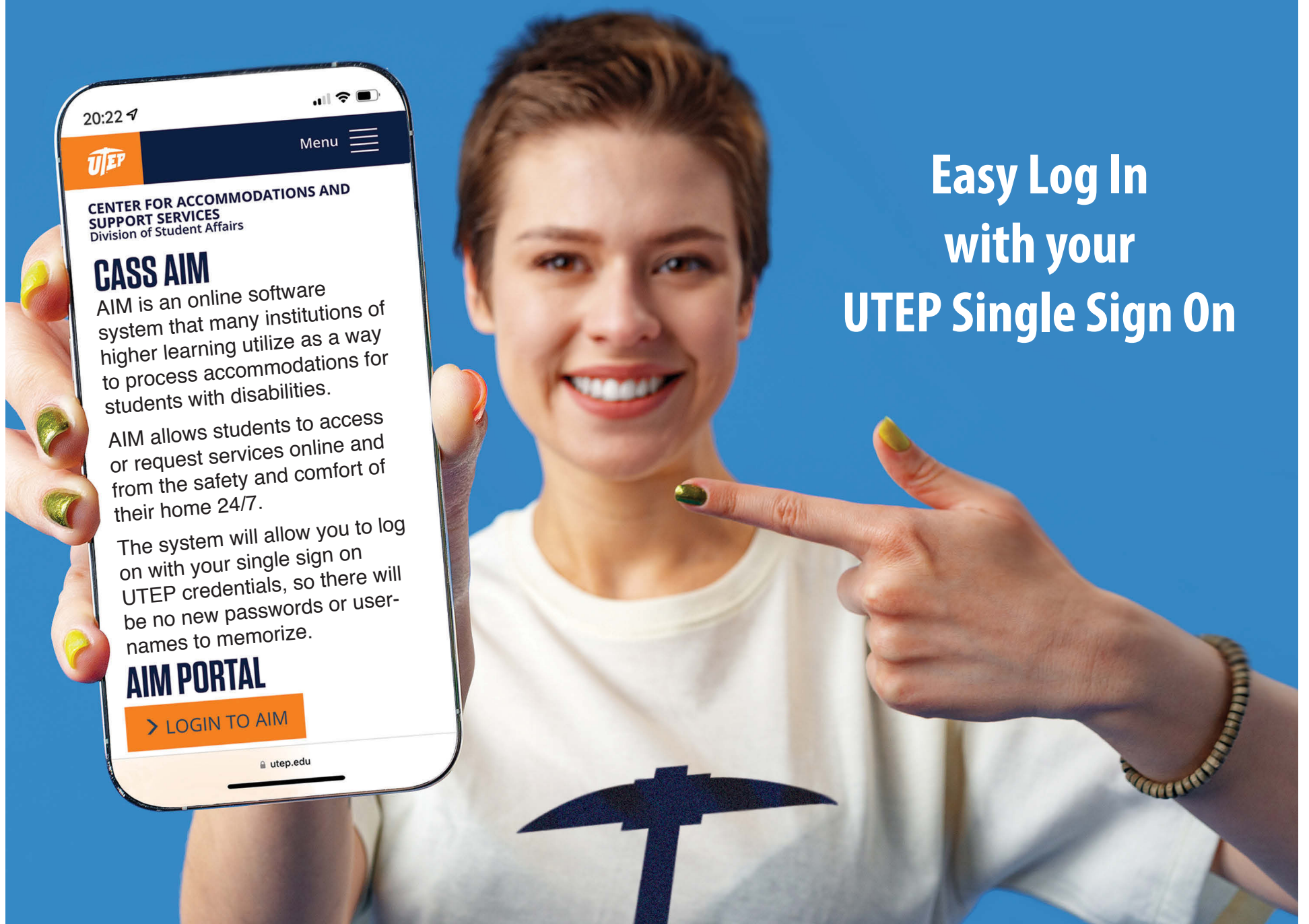
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# Arts & Culture

Meagan Garcia, editor

## WRAPPING SUMMER UP WITH MUSIC AT SUMMER FEST

BY MEAGAN GARCIA  
THE PROSPECTOR



El Paso Pro-Musica started off its season with the annual Summerfest concert Aug. 20 at the Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall featuring Grammy-winning cellist Zuill Bailey, violinist Chee-Yun, and pianist Natasha Paremiski. **Photo by Annabella Mireles/The Prospector**

When it comes to live music and artistic connections, the UTEP Center for Arts and Entrepreneurship (CAE) and the El Paso Pro-Musica are the head of hosting local concerts with world-renowned artists.

Most recently, the “Summer Fest” concert was held at the Fox Fine Arts Recital Hall at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 20.

Headlining artists for this event included violinist Chee-Yun Kim, pianist Natasha Paremiski and Grammy award-winning cellist Zuill Bailey.

Both Kim and Paremiski have performed numerous times with dozens of major orchestras across different parts of the world. Bailey shares similar successes while making community impacts in his role as artistic director of the Center for the Arts and Entrepreneurship.

The entire program was dedicated in memory of Dede Rogers, an El Paso-born philanthropist who is known for her work championing for the city’s arts and culture.

This sentiment was made prominent based on the first song the

group played in her name, “Trio Elegiac No.1 in G Minor” composed by Sergei Rachmaninov. It is a piece meant to serve as an elegy, which is a poem of reflection and lamentation for those who have passed.

The music itself is gentle, but aims to invoke nostalgia and grief from the audience. The trio managed to make the entire piece sound like a wistful conversation between the three instruments being played

After the initial dedication, the remaining first half of the program carried out a more upbeat tone. The trio performed “Piano Trio No.1 in D Minor” composed by Anton Arensky.

Before they played though, Bailey shared a few words about the talented artists working with him onstage and promoted all the events El Paso ProMusica has lined up for the year.

He continued to liven up the crowd with an anecdote about coming out to listen to classical music which helped prepare everyone for a wonderful shift in performance.

The music was fun and romantic and was only further accentuated by the incredibly expressive performance skills of each musician. Their unique interactions with each other and passion in their playing made it much more enjoyable for the audience.

Even during the brief intermission there was endless chatter about how entranced people were.

The night ended with the lovely and highlighted program “Archduke Trio” composed by Ludwig van Beethoven. Each movement showcased bold shifts between light, carefree playing and more heartfelt sounds.

These musicians were a delight to hear and had the audience anticipating the next live music event on campus. Even first timers commented on how enjoyable the concert was.

One audience member, Devon Stroman, excitedly said it was very nice and tranquil.

UTEP student Jacquelyn Medina, mentioned how she enjoyed the energy the musicians had while playing, saying that one could see



Bailey has produced more than 30 chart topping titles and won a Best Solo Performance Grammy Award in 2017.

**Photo by Annabella Mireles/The Prospector**

how the musicians moved with the music. Both audience members mentioned how excited they were to know that there will be more concerts like this in the future.

The El Paso Pro-Musica and UTEP Center for Arts and Entrepreneurship will host more

performances from internationally successful artists throughout the 2022-2023 season.

For information on these events visit [elpasopromusica.org/shows](http://elpasopromusica.org/shows).

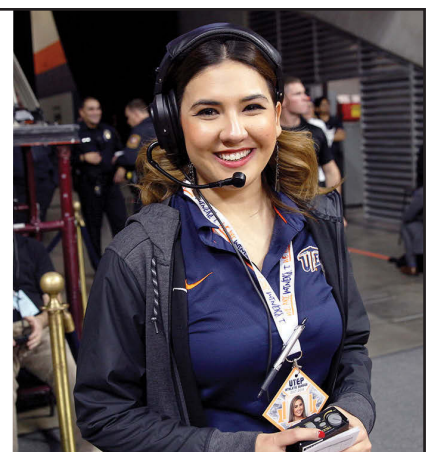
Meagan Garcia is the Arts & Culture editor and may be reached at [megarcia19@miners.utep.edu](mailto:megarcia19@miners.utep.edu).

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# Sam Reveles returns to the Rubin Center with 'Solastalgia'

BY ELISHA NUÑEZ  
The Prospector

Bold brush strokes, changing patterns and contrasting colors are all words and phrases to describe Sam Reveles' artworks.

Coming soon to UTEP's Rubin Gallery, Reveles will have his artwork shown in an exciting new exhibit on campus. The opening reception will be Thursday Aug. 25, and its exhibit will last until Friday Dec. 9 of this year.

The title of his exhibit "Solastalgia" perfectly captures the feeling and haunting aesthetic of his paintings.

Born and raised in El Paso, Reveles is excited to unveil an exhibit in his hometown after not bringing one to the city for 20 years.

"I haven't had an exhibition here in a long time, so it feels great. I'm very much looking forward to it," Reveles said.

He remembers being obsessed with space and making new things at a young age. Discoveries from space telescopes and seeing photographs of the universe, Reveles was always motivated to put the wonder he felt looking at those images into artwork.

First, his obsession with art and space took the form of building things, but it was not until later when painting became his forte.

"I used to build a lot of things," he said. "But the notion of becoming an artist or studying art didn't come

until much later, but I was always interested in it."

Taking his passion for art to the next level, he left for a bigger city. After a couple of years of studying at the UCLA School of Art and Design in Los Angeles, he returned to his hometown and continued his art education from here.

"[He is] a graduate of the Department of Art at UTEP and [from] here in the borderland," Rubin Center Director Kerry Doyle said. "He went on to do his MFA at Yale University, and he now lives in Dublin, Ireland. So, he is an example of a UTEP graduate that has gotten a lot of success in his life through his artwork."

With a career spanning over 20 years, Reveles has witnessed many sights that inspire his paintings. Bringing international success, he has participated in exhibitions around the world, from his hometown of El Paso to Spain. His work has been noticed by many publications in the process, bringing attention to his abstract pieces. An article by David Pagle in the Los Angeles Times described how it is rare to find sheer excitement in abstract paintings.

In his upcoming exhibit, Reveles focuses on a theme that stems from a deep and somewhat dark term, Solastalgia. Coined by Australian environmental researcher and philosopher Glenn A. Albrecht, the term is based on the words "solace,"



El Paso artist Sam Reveles will reveal his collection "Solastalgia" at an opening reception 5-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 25, at the Rubin Gallery. This collection showcases pieces that were constructed using layered colored strips to create natural landscapes. **Photo courtesy of UTEP Marketing and Communications**

which means which gives comfort, and "algos," which is Greek for pain. Sustained by climate change and environmental disaster, this term portrays the feeling of one's distress for their home. In this exhibit, Reveles utilizes that term and its meaning to perfection.

After working with landscapes for many years, Reveles felt that he could portray Solastalgia through his art. He recalled a trip he took to Iceland where he saw the beauty of the Gullfoss Falls and described how, "it takes your breath away."

Although its beauty is special, there is a scary reason behind the

falls' existence.

"The issue is that its beauty is coming because the water [is] being fed by a glacier nearby that is melting at a high rate," Reveles said. "There shouldn't be that much water, but there is because this glacier is melting."

Though Reveles has international success, he still has a strong connection to El Paso and his hometown and is always ready to show his work.

Not only is Reveles excited to make somewhat of a comeback at his alma mater, but his old school is also excited to show his work, along

with a variety of other shows.

"We show artwork in any kind of media you can think of," Doyle said. "So, we're opening two other shows that evening. We're interested in a variety of shows, in a variety of media from artists that are helping us think about the world that we live in. That's what we do here at the Rubin Center."

Elisha Nunez is a staff reporter and may be reached at [egunuez2@miners.utep.edu](mailto:egunuez2@miners.utep.edu)



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# Don Haskins hosts renowned artists this fall

BY SOPHIA VILLALOBOS  
The Prospector

The Don Haskins Center, 151 Glory Road, is welcoming the fall semester with a variety of event listings.

The semester starts off with Iron Maiden and their Legacy of the Beast World Tour at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11. The four-member English heavy metal band is composed of Steve Harris on bass guitar, Michael Kenney on keyboards, Nicko McBrain on drums and Janick Gers on guitar.

The band won the Grammy Award for Best Metal Performance in 2011 for the track “El Dorado” from their 2010 Album “The Final Frontier.” Ticket prices range from \$289- \$1,849. The event is almost sold out and is expecting fans from all age ranges.

Cirque du Soleil Ovo will perform for several dates in September. The show is a worldwide touring circus production inspired by the world of insects. Deborah Colker, its creator, wanted to step away from typical productions of acts or dancing and instead focus on movement. The show revolves around an egg that symbolizes the cycle of life.

The Cirque du Soleil Ovo will perform at 7:30 p.m. Sep. 15, 16 and 17. It will be also have a performance at 3:30 p.m. Sep. 17 and at 5 p.m. Sep. 18. There is no age requirement to watch the show. Ticket prices range from \$97 to \$499.

Colombian singer-songwriter Camilo Echeverry will perform at 8 p.m., Sept. 30. He is coming to the United States for his “Mis Manos” tour in which he will perform songs from this album and other hit songs like “TuTu” with Pedro Capo and “Desconocidos” featuring Mau y Ricky. Ticket prices range from \$114 to \$388.

International pop-superstar Pitbull, also known as Mr. Worldwide, will perform at 8 p.m. Oct. 2. The Miami born singer began his career in the early 2000s. In 2009 he released his hit single “I Know You Want Me” (Calle Ocho) which has been a canon song for pop culture.



The Cirque du Soleil Ovo (TOP), Iron Maiden (BOTTOM LEFT) and Pitbull (BOTTOM RIGHT) will be performing at the Don Haskins Center. **Top photo courtesy of Ed Schipul/creative commons. Bottom left photo courtesy of Ceedub13/creative commons. Bottom right photo courtesy of Eva Rinaldi/creative commons.**



Pitbull has received the Grammy Award for Best Latin Rock or Alternative Album. He has collaborated with other significant pop artists. He will be coming to El Paso for his “Can’t Stop Us Now” summer tour with Sean Paul and featuring globalization DJ’s. Ticket prices range from \$114- \$476.

Twenty-three-year-old Christian Nodal from Sonora, Mexico started his career in 2016 and has won three Latin Grammys, two billboard Latin Music Awards, and

a Latin American Music Award since then. He rose to fame with his debut album “Me Deje Llevar.” He will be performing the “Forajido” album along with his hit songs “Adios Amor” and many others at 8 p.m. Nov. 4. Ticket prices range from \$61- \$1200.

Greta Van Fleet is an American rock band from Frankenmuth, Michigan which consists of the Kiszka brothers Josh, Jake and Sam and Danny Wagner. They will perform at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov.



8. They won the Grammy for Best Rock Album in 2019 for their “From the Fires” album released November 2017. Ticket prices range from \$42 to \$149.

Finally the three-time rescheduled band Rage Against the Machine will appear with Run the Jewels at 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24. An American rock band from Los Angeles, California, they consist of four members Zach de la Rocha (vocals), Tom Morello (guitar), Tim Commerford (bass guitar) and

Brad Wilk (drums). Old tickets purchased can be used for the new date. Ticket prices range from \$125 to \$528. The event is almost sold out.

Tickets for the events listed above are available at ticketmaster.com or at the UTEP ticket center at Union Building.

Sophia Villalobos is a contributor and may be reached at svillalobos13@miners.utep.com

## MINERPALOOZA from page 1

For some students the battle of the bands is their favorite part about Minerpalooza. Hailey Saenz, a sophomore education major, enjoys the showcasing of local bands.

“I really love listening to the new local artists that perform at the battle of the bands. It’s so cool how much local talent we have here in the sun city. I can’t wait to listen to all of the original music and covers that the bands will play,” Saenz said.

Students like sophomore Maddison Del Toro cannot wait to experience her second Minerpalooza with her friends.

“I had so much fun at last year’s Minerpalooza,” Del Toro said. “My friends and I danced all night to Coolio and The Yin Yang twins. It was our first Minerpalooza as a group and we all can’t wait for this year’s.”

Minerpalooza announced their

2022 headliner as Tequila Rock Revolution Friday Aug. 19. Last year’s lineup made the crowd go wild when Petey Pablo, Coolio, and The Yin Yang Twins rocked the stage. Before that for the 30th Minerpalooza, Jon Pardi performed.

Sophomore Steven Alva is excited to go hang out with his friends at Minerpalooza.

“I am looking forward to having a good time with my friends at Minerpalooza. The entertainment is my favorite part of Minerpalooza,” Alva said.

There is still time for students and community members to volunteer to help at the event. To find out how to sign up, visit [www.utep.edu/student-affairs/minerpaloosa/](http://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/minerpaloosa/).

Alyson Rodriguez is a staff reporter and may be reached at aerodriguez20@miners.utep.edu; @alyson\_rod1127 on Twitter.



The 32nd Minerpalooza will take place Friday, Sept. 2, and will hold the final round of Battle of the Bands which include Melancholy 10, Jamal Streeter, ACID WAVE, Low Perfection, and Sultanes Del Yonke. **Annabella Mireles/The Prospector**

# UTEP welcomes students with events at ‘Miner Welcome Week’

## PROSPECTOR STAFF REPORT

It is August and you know what that means, back-to-school time. While school districts and universities have prepared for the return of their scholars, UTEP will do the same in a two-week-long event called “Miner Welcome Week.”

A tradition that has been around for a couple of years, Miner Welcome Week embraces the start of the upcoming semester, allowing for students to take part in multiple events starting Aug. 18. From socials to a job fair, this welcoming custom allows for everyone to come together.

To begin the welcome-back tradition, UTEP kicked off this semester’s new student move-in day Aug. 18, which is when all new students will move into their dorms. The following three days brought back returning students to move in, accompanied by a board game night, craft night and time to locate their classes on campus.

The Texas Western Gold Rush was set to begin at 7 p.m. Aug. 22. This traditional evening was all about hyping students up for the upcoming fall semester. Unfortunately, due to inclement weather the event was postponed and is now set to take place Tuesday, Aug. 23 at 7 p.m. at Centennial Plaza instead. Miners in attendance can receive free merchandise, see live performances, and more.

Following the Texas Western Gold Rush is the Get Involved & Wellbeing Fair starting at 10 a.m. Aug. 24-25. This event will host a variety of organizations, programs, and opportunities for Miners to become



Paydirt Pete and the UTEP cheerleaders dance on the Centennial Plaza stage during last year’s Texas Western Gold Rush.

### The Prospector File Photo

more involved on campus. A large-scale tabling fair spanning two days informs students who want to be a part of UTEP’s campus life among the multitude of options.

To kick off the fall football season this semester, the Miners will face University of North Texas at the “915 Night” game at 7 p.m. Aug. 27 at Sun Bowl Stadium. Be sure to

represent with the UTEP gear and colors!

Next on the event calendar is a job fair. The “Work @ UTEP Job Fair” will take place at Leech Grove 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Aug. 31 and Sept. 1. For information on the fair visit [utep.edu/student-affairs/careers/](http://utep.edu/student-affairs/careers/)

The headlining event will be Minerpalooza, a UTEP custom that has

made headlines for decades. Once again, the festival will be hosted outside of the Sun Bowl on Glory Road Sept. 2. Known for being UTEP’s biggest party of the year, Minerpalooza is a back-to-school event filled with food trucks, activities and live performances. The winning bands from UTEP’s Battle of the Bands, along with other local

music acts, will perform at this decades-old festival. Headlining will be Tequila Rock Revolution.

UTEP is sure to welcome back all students with exciting fairs, activities, and fun opportunities to get involved. For information, visit [minetracker.utep.edu](http://minetracker.utep.edu).

# ‘Beast’ teaches family values in this thriller

## BY KRISTEN SCHEAFFER

The Prospector

*Editor’s note: This review has no spoilers.*

Though it was not anticipated to be a blockbuster, “Beast” stood out with its four-dimensional characters, adding depth to the average thriller. Although the film is formulaic to the average trope, its unique lesson is of overcoming grief and how a family moves forward after loss.

Directed by Baltasar Kormákur, the film follows Nate Samuels (Idris Elba) as he and his daughters, Norah (Leah Jeffries) and Meredith (Iyana Halley), visit an old family friend, Martin Battles (Sharlto Copley) who resides in Samuels’ late ex-wife’s village in Africa.

From the beginning, there is tension between Samuels and his oldest daughter, Meredith, or “Mer” as she prefers to be called. Mer is following her mother’s footsteps in photography and she makes sure her father knows that she notices his lack of interest in her hobby.



“Beast” starring Idris Elba, Leah Jeffries and Iyana Halley, is a thriller about a family whose trip to Africa takes a dark turn when a rogue lion terrorizes them. **Photo courtesy of Universal Pictures**

Samuels’ relationship with Norah is healthier, however this leads to her character acting as more of a mediator.

Their second day in Africa, Martin takes them out on a safari. We begin to get a glimpse of the girls

and the contrast in their relationship with their father and Martin. Everything is going well until they visit a neighboring village where there is carnage among the people. When trying to help a stray villager, they stumble across the lion respon-

sible for the deaths.

Throughout the film, the viewers learn more about the lion and how he came to be rogue. We become more aware of poachers, anti-poachers, and the roles of lions in their pride.

The greatest theme to be found in the film is how to manage grief. Samuels and his daughters must learn to overcome their adversities with one another to survive, whilst having one another’s back. “Beast” introduces the theme of how nature has its own rules as well. The lion is primal and has no regard for civility, whether someone means no harm or not.

The ending was no surprise but ties the whole film up nicely. Samuels is able to find closure after all his emotional turmoil, tying up the grief theme within the film.

There are moments where you are left on the edge of your seat with tension and other moments where you feel for this family. The shots are beautiful and set the tone and atmosphere. I would recommend this film to anyone looking for a little extra added to their action thriller. I would give this film a 7 out of 10. “Beast” is exclusively out in theaters everywhere.

Kristen Scheaffer is a contributor and can be reached at [kmscheaffer@miners.utep.edu](mailto:kmscheaffer@miners.utep.edu).

# Sports

Emmanuel Rivas, editor

## UTEP's long-awaited football season is here

BY DANIEL ALEC LOPEZ

The Prospector

Coming off a heartbreaking loss to Fresno State University in the Pub G Bowl last season, the Miners are looking to improve upon their 7-5 record from the 2021 season. UTEP has both new familiar faces returning on offense and defense.

Last season the Miners offense was ranked 70th overall, led by returning junior quarterback Gavin Hardison and senior running back Ronald Awatt. Another player returning to this offense and to watch for, is sophomore wide receiver Tyrin Smith. The unit looks to improve this season as Coach Dave Warner talked about the offensive progress throughout the past couple of practices.

"I think we (offense) have been good; you get the middle camp of like this, towards the end, it gets a little bit old," Warner said in an Aug. 16 post-practice interview. "They have gotten better. We need to be more consistent make the right choices and right decisions."

Hardison returns as the starting quarterback for the Miners. Last



Wide receiver Mister Chavis, cornerback Walter Neil, and defensive back Verenzo Holmes celebrate after a touchdown Oct. 2, 2021. **Photo by Annabella Mireles/The Prospector File Photo**

season he was able to throw for 3,217 yards and complete 198-of-357 passes. The high passing yardage was the fifth-most in a single season in UTEP history.

Awatt led the team in rushing with 844 yards on 159 carries and averaged 65.0 yards per game. Smith also had a good year last season for the Miners offense, catching 33 passes for 570 yards, along with

four touchdowns.

The new players to watch for on the offense are sophomore transfer offensive lineman, Aluma Nkele and transfer junior offensive lineman Sedrick Luke.

On the defensive side, the Miners return most of their starters including key players such as senior defensive tackle Kelton Moss, junior linebacker Keenan Stewart, senior

defensive end Praise Amawhule, and senior linebacker Tyrice Knight. The defensive unit ranked 40th overall and their redzone defense ranked 25.

"I feel good. We got a lot of good players back," Coach Bradley Dale Peveto said after a post practice interview on Aug 16. "I like our depth. They have worked very hard and they have had a great year off-

season in the summer, spring and fall camp."

Moss was another key part in this defense and defensive line. He recorded 23 tackles, one pass breakup, one quarterback hurry, and a fumble recovery. Amawhule led the Miners with 13 tackles for losses, 10 quarterback hurries, and three forced fumbles, he ranked second on the team with seven pass breakups, ranked second on the team with 5.5 sacks, and started all 13 games at defensive end.

The Miners have a chance to improve upon last season's record and to finish better in the conference. The offense and defense will need to find their pace in a hurry as the Miners schedule begins with tough components.

Stats provided by UTEP Athletics, UTSA Athletics, UNM Athletics, Boise State Athletics, UNT Athletics, LA Tech Athletics.

To read the fully story, visit [theprospectordaily.com](http://theprospectordaily.com).

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## UTEP volleyball prepares to run it back this season

BY KATRINA VILLARREAL

The Prospector

After a historical 2021 season, UTEP volleyball kicks off the fall 2022 season with an exhibition match against Grand Canyon University at noon Aug. 20. The Miners officially start the season off

at the Northwestern Invitational in Evanston, Illinois in a double header at 11 a.m. Friday Aug. 26 against Northeastern University and BIG Ten affiliate Northwestern University at 6:30 p.m.

"Obviously playing a BIG Ten

team on their home floor with a top 10 recruiting class will be a tough one right out of the gates," UTEP Volleyball head coach Ben Wallis told UTEP Athletics in a news release.

UTEP is set to host five of its 12 non-conference games and will participate in two more tournaments, the Oral Roberts Tournament, and the Arizona Tournament. The Miners will also take on conference champion Texas A&M – Corpus Christi and Cal State Northridge from the Big West Conference. The Miners will also host rival New Mexico State University in the Battle of I-10 at noon Nov. 23 at Memorial Gym.

In conference play, UTEP will host seven of the 14 Conference USA games this season. Conference play begins Sept. 23 when the Miners take a trip to the East Coast to take on Florida International

University at 5 p.m. The first home game for the Miners in conference play will be against LA Tech at 6 p.m. Sept 30 at Memorial Gym.

During the offseason Wallis and his assistant coaches added some hard hitters to the 2022 roster. After the 2021 season ended, Wallis announced the addition of setter Mattie Gantt, outside hitter Katherine Neille, outside hitter Marian Ovalle, and middle hitter Kaya Weaver. In May, he announced the addition of outside hitter Sara Pustahija from Serbia to the roster.

Along with some new additions, Wallis announced the addition of former Belmont assistant coach and Samford Alumna Courtney Johnson to the coaching staff. While at Belmont, Johnson oversaw the defensive side and helped the Bruins make their first conference tournament appearance since 2017.

"I'm thrilled to add Courtney to

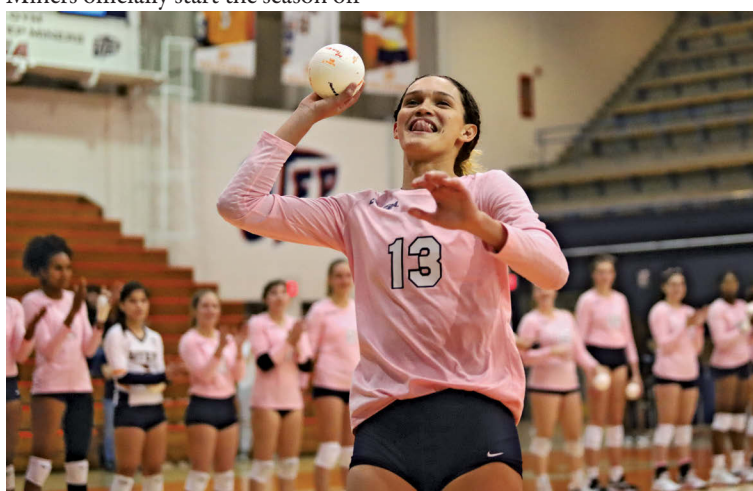
our staff," Wallis told UTEP Athletics. "Courtney's ideals, character, and grinder mentality are what we've been missing here for a little while and we're excited to get her out on the road recruiting as soon as possible."

Darley ranked second on the team in blocks with 101 and earned All-Conference Second Team honors while Patterson led the Miners in points (427) and kills (367) for the third year in a row along with being the first Miner to earn postseason tournament honors (NIVC All-Tournament Team). Sianez led the Miners in digs with 512, where she finished first in C-USA.

All information and quotes for UTEP courtesy of UTEP Athletics, [utepminers.com](http://utepminers.com).

To read the fully story, visit [theprospectordaily.com](http://theprospectordaily.com).

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Outside hitter Paulina Perez Rosas throws a toy volleyball out towards the crowd during senior night Dec. 2, 2021.

**Photo by Annabella Mireles/The Prospector File Photo**

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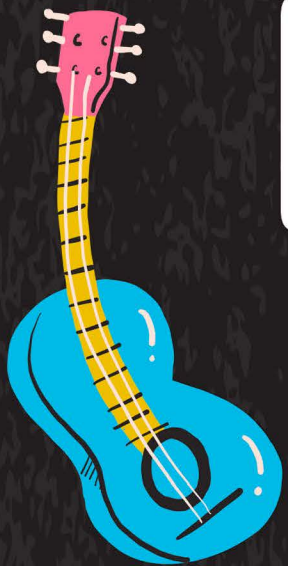
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